

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) A method for facilitating transfer of intellectual property rights via a global computer network, the method comprising:
 - offering an interest in an intellectual property asset via a network resource residing on the global computer network;
 - gathering bids from network users; and
 - automatically donating the intellectual property asset to a charitable organization in the event no sufficient bids are gathered within a period of time.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously Presented) A method for facilitating transfer of interests in intellectual property assets via a global computer network, the method comprising:
 - designating a proposed transfer of a first intellectual property asset on a network resource residing on the global computer network;
 - offering the proposed transfer on the network resource for access by remote network users; and
 - gathering bids from network users with respect to the proposed transfer, wherein at least some of the bids define a transfer of an interest in a second intellectual property asset in exchange for transfer of the interest in the first intellectual property asset.
5. (Previously Presented) A method for facilitating transfer of an interest in an intellectual property asset via global computer network, the method comprising:
 - formulating a proposed transfer of an interest in an intellectual property asset based on input submitted by a network user;
 - presenting one or more terms for the proposed transfer;

permitting the network user to select one or more of the terms;
limiting bidders via an access profile;
defining the proposed transfer based at least part on the terms selected by the user; and
posting the proposed transfer on a network resource residing on the global computer network.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) A method for facilitating transfer of intellectual property assets via a global computer network, the method comprising:

receiving a request from a first user to post a proposed transfer of a first intellectual property asset on a network resource residing on the global computer network;
receiving a request from a second user to post a proposed transfer of a second intellectual property asset on the network resource;
combining the first and second intellectual property assets into an intellectual property asset package;
posting a proposed transfer of the intellectual property asset package on the network resource for access by remote network users; and
accepting input from network users expressing an interest in the proposed intellectual property asset package.

8. (Previously Presented) A method for facilitating transfer of intellectual property assets via a global computer network, the method comprising:

designating a proposed transfer of a package of intellectual property assets on a first network resource residing on the global computer network;
posting the proposed transfer on the first network resource for access by remote network users as a function of a predefined user profile; and
accepting input from network users expressing an interest in the proposed transfer.

9. (Previously Presented) A method for facilitating transfer of interests in intellectual property assets via a global computer network, the method comprising:

offering options to purchase an interest in an intellectual property asset in the future, wherein offering options includes listing the options via a network resource residing on the global computer network; and

accepting requests from network users to purchase the options, thereby trading the options among network users.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for facilitating transfer of interests in intellectual property assets via a global computer network, the method comprising:

auctioning an interest in an intellectual property asset via a network resource residing on the global computer network, wherein auctioning an interest includes listing, as part of an auction process, an asset identifier corresponding to the asset and terms of transfer of the interest in the intellectual property asset;

limiting access to the asset identifier and the terms of transfer as a function of an access profile associated with each network user;

gathering bids from network users; and

adjusting the terms of transfer in the event no sufficient bids are gathered within a predetermined period of time.

11. (Previously Presented) The method for facilitating transfer of an interest in an intellectual property asset via global computer network of claim 5, wherein limiting bidders via an access profile includes accessing a database of access profiles, wherein each network user has an associated access profile.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for auctioning an interest in an intellectual property asset via a global computer network, the method comprising:

offering the interest in the intellectual property asset via a network resource residing on the global computer network, wherein the interest in the intellectual property asset is defined by a

proposed transfer agreement and a profile of users granted access to the proposed transfer agreement;

collecting bids from network users meeting the profile of users granted access to the proposed transfer agreement; and

accepting a bid.

13. (Previously Presented) The method for auctioning an interest in an intellectual property asset via a global computer network of claim 12, wherein the proposed transfer agreement is a proposed licensing agreement.

14. (Previously Presented) The method for auctioning an interest in an intellectual property asset via a global computer network of claim 12, wherein the intellectual property asset is a patent.

15. (Previously Presented) A method of offering an interest in an intellectual property asset, the method comprising:

offering the interest in the intellectual property asset via a global computer network; and displaying ancillary information about the interests in the intellectual property asset that allows a potential bidder to assess a scope of protection and a value associated with the intellectual property asset.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of offering an interest in an intellectual property asset, wherein the intellectual property asset is a patent and further wherein the ancillary information is a prosecution history of the patent.

17. (Previously Presented) A method of transferring of an interest in an intellectual property asset comprising:

accepting, from a first global computer network user, an offer for transfer of an interest in an intellectual property asset, wherein the offer includes terms for the transfer;

displaying a description representative of the offer for transfer of the interest in the intellectual property asset to a second global computer network user; and

receiving, from the second global computer network user, a bid for the interest in the intellectual property asset offered, wherein the bid includes modifications to the terms offered by the first global computer network user.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the first global computer network user selects the terms for transfer of the interest in the intellectual property asset using a term selection means that allows the first user to select terms for transfer from a set of transfer terms.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the identity of the second global computer network user is unknown to the first global computer network user.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the second global computer network user is a group of network users.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein receiving a bid for the interest in the intellectual property asset offered includes pooling intellectual property rights owned by members of the group as part of the bid.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the interest in the intellectual asset includes an interest in a pool of intellectual property asset interests.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the interest in the intellectual asset includes an interest in a pool of intellectual property asset interests.